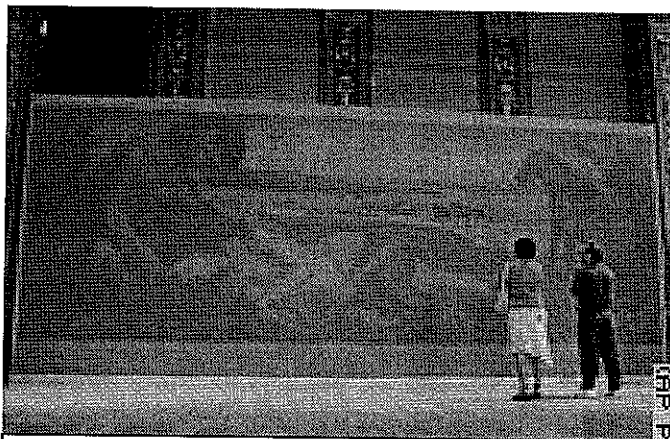


PSPP 310 – Turfgrass Management
Syllabus – Fall Semester 2008

Instructor: Tracy A.O. Dougher
314 Leon Johnson Hall
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Office Hours: T, R 9-11am (or by appt.)
Class: M, W 10:00 - 10:50am, PGC 211
Lab: F 10:00 - 11:50am, PGC 211 or Hort Farm
TAs: Jessica Martin, Grant Helmer
Required Materials: non-programmable calculator (no cell phone calculators)
Prerequisites: BIOL 101, MATH 150 or higher
Recommended Corequisite: LRES 201
Required Text: Fundamentals of Turfgrass Management, 3rd edition, by Nick Christians



Grass art: Dietta Johnson, left, and Dane Haron view "Supernatural (After Piero di Cosimo)," a 4m by 9.8m work of art created by using grass as a photographic medium, on Wednesday at the Chicago Cultural Center. The coloration was achieved by projecting a negative of this Renaissance painting on newly sprouting grass. The work was created by artists Heather Ackroyd and Dan Harvey of Surrey, England.
www.taipcitimes.com/News/world?pubdate=2003-08-23

Overview/Objective: I expect you to be able to grow and maintain turfgrass which includes knowing propagation, establishment, mowing, irrigation, and pest control methods. I expect you to understand the inherent properties of a site that effect turfgrass growth, including soil characteristics, fertilizers, and irrigation. I expect you will be able to identify Northern and Southern turfgrasses and understand the adaptabilities each.

Grading: Grades are posted on WebCT

Lecture Quizzes (20 @ 3 points each)	60
Purple Sheets (20 @ 2 points each)	40
Lecture Exams (3 @ 100 points each)	300
Lab Assignments (9 @ 25 points each)	225
Field Trips (2 @ 15 points each)	30
ID Exam	45
Lab Final Project	300
Total	1000

grade		grade	
A	≥ 93%	D+	67-69%
A-	90-92%	D	63-66%
B+	87-89%	D-	60-62%
B	83-86%	F	≤ 59%
B-	80-82%		
C+	77-79%		
C	73-76%		
C-	70-72%		

THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP FOR EXAMS MISSED, UNLESS YOU HAVE A DOCTOR'S SIGNATURE OR INSTRUCTOR'S SIGNED EXCUSE (prior arrangements must be made for the latter).

Lecture Format:

- 5 minute quiz
- 5 minute quiz discussion
- 10-20 minute group discussion on purple sheet (topic of the day)
- 10-30 minute recap session (topic of the day)
- 5 minute look-ahead (next topic)

Lecture Quizzes and Discussion - Lecture quizzes will be handed out promptly at the beginning of lecture. Five minutes will be given for the quiz. Questions will be over ANY material prior to the quiz. Answers will be discussed directly after the quiz. Twenty three quizzes will be given, any three may be missed without repercussion or excuse.

Group Discussion on Purple Sheets - In the session prior to each lecture session, I will hand out a purple sheet with several questions on the next topic. These questions ***must be filled in*** as completely as possible before class. They will be handed in at the beginning of class and checked for completeness while you are taking the daily quiz. Twenty three purple sheets will be handed out, any three may be missed without repercussion or excuse. At the end of quiz time, your purple sheet will be returned to you and you will be assigned a group with which to discuss your answers and get help with problem areas. The TAs and I will help answer any questions your group may have. The discussion period will not be adequate time (not by any stretch) to fill out the sheet. At no point will I be checking your sheets for content, group discussion and recap session are the time to be sure that you understand the material.

Recap Session - On each purple sheet, there will be a space for 'instructor questions'. Please fill these out as you work in your groups. The recap session will be the time for answering these questions. Also during recap session, I will choose individuals to expand discussion of certain questions.

Look-Ahead - At the end of lecture time, I will do a quick synopsis and relevance check of the next topic to be covered.

Lecture Exams: Each exam will emphasize the most recently covered materials. However, all exams are cumulative. Old exams and potential questions, as well as lecture questions are posted on WebCT.

Lab Assignments: Lab assignments will range from lab reports to calculations to plant maintenance. Assignments are due the following lab period unless otherwise noted. Some lab points require that you be present for the lab. There is no make-up for these lab points. For calculation and question points, ONE redo is allowed to recapture lost points.

Field Trips: We will be taking two field trips to turf-related industries. Transportation is provided, but you may also attend these trips using your own mode of transport. All field trips are within 10 miles of campus. I expect you to ask relevant questions on these field trips. A summary (2-3 pages) of what you learned on each field trip must be handed in the following lab period. I expect the paper to be proofed for grammar and spelling and contain accurate facts. There are no redos on field trip papers.

ID/Culture Exam: You are expected to know the identification and cultural characteristics of warm and cool season grasses listed in Lab 7. The exam will cover knowledge of both common and botanic names as well as key turfgrass cultural requirements. This material will appear only on the ID/Culture Exam and not on the regular exams.

Lab Final Project: Instead of a one-day final, you will be tested in your ability to grow and maintain turfgrass plots. The project will include the calculations and calibrations necessary to maintain the plot as well as case studies for your specific grass. Detailed project information is in the lab manual.

Math requirement: Management of turfgrasses utilizes a LOT of mathematics, mostly basic algebra. The life of your plants depends on it! I strongly recommend that you take MATH 150 or higher before taking this course. In the event that you still struggle with math, please seek out help EARLY!

Calculations: SHOW YOUR WORK! If an answer to a calculation is incorrect but you approached the problem correctly, I am willing to give partial credit. If I cannot read your work or figure out how you arrived at an answer, no partial credit will be given. **It works in your favor to neatly write out all the steps. You will need a calculator, non-programmable, for this class.**

Date	Material	Chapter (pages)
Sept 3	Introduction/Pre-Test	1
5	Lab 1 – Seeding & Sodding (Hort Farm)	
8	Steps of Establishment	5
10	Step 1 Site Preparation - Soil testing	6
12	Lab 2 – Soils	
15	Step 1 Site Preparation - Soil testing, soil modification	6
17	Step 1 Site Preparation - clearing, tillage, grading, fertilization, irrigation design, mulching	5(77-80, 88, 92)
19	Lab 3 – Seeding Rate and Planting Depth	
22	Step 2 Turf Selection - seed vs. sod, C3 vs. C4	2(9-14)
24	Step 2 Turf Selection - ID model building	2(14-31)
26	Lab 4 – Area Calculations (Hort Farm)	
29	Review	
Oct 1	EXAM 1	
3	Lab 5 –Field Trip – Bridger Creek Golf Course	
6	Step 2 Turf Selection - cool season grasses	3
8	Step 2 Turf Selection - cool season grasses	3
10	Lab 6 – Field Trip – Springhill Sod Farm	
13	Marathon Session	4
15	Step 2 Turf Selection - warm season grasses	4
17	Lab 7 – ID Exam/Plot Planting (mid-term evaluation)	
20	Step 3 Planting Procedures - sodding	5(94-103)
22	Step 3 Planting Procedures - seeding	5(80-88)
24	Lab 8 – Sprayer and Spreader Calibration	
27	Step 4 Post Planting Culture - mowing, PGRs	8
29	Step 4 Post Planting Culture - fertilizing	7
31	Lab 9 – Fertilizer Calculations	
Nov 3	Step 4 Post Planting Culture - fertilizing	7
5	Step 4 Post Planting Culture - top dressing, thatch	10
7	Lab 10 – Current Issues in Turfgrass Management	
10	Review	
12	EXAM 2	
14	Lab 11 - Irrigation	
17	Step 4 Post Planting Culture - irrigation	9
19	Step 4 Post Planting Culture - irrigation	9
21	Lab 12 – Control Chemicals	
24	Step 4 Post Planting Culture - pest management (weeds)	11
26	Step 4 Post Planting Culture – pest management (weeds)	11
28	No class - Thanksgiving	
Dec 1	Step 4 Post Planting Culture - pest management (insects)	12
3	Step 4 Post Planting Culture - pest management (insects)	12
5	Lab 13 – Project Due	
8	Step 4 Post Planting Culture - pest management (disease)	13
10	Step 4 Post Planting Culture - pest management (disease)	13
12	Lab 14 - Review/Grass Art	
16	FINAL EXAM	8-9:50am